A RECENT REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL

OF THE

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

TO THE TRUSTEES

A Recent Report of the Principal

OF THE

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute

To the Trustees

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute
1909

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FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and devise to the Trustees of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, the sum

of.....*Dollars*

payable, etc.

To the Trustees of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute,

Gentlemen:

It is my endeavor in my annual report from year to year to give to the Trustees and public all the facts possible in reference to the work and results of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Since my last report the institution has been honored by a visit from the Governor of Alabama, the Hon. B. B. Comer, who, in company with the local member of the State Legislature and the State Senator from our district, together with about a dozen private citizens, spent a day in making an inspection of the work of the school. The Governor and his party expressed themselves as greatly pleased.

During the year which has just closed, the number of students enrolled in all the departments of the Institute proper has been 1,621—1,085 young men and 536 young women. The average attendance has been about 1,400. This number does not include the 400 enrolled in the winter Short Course in Agriculture nor the 144 children in the Training School. The regular students in the Institute proper have come from 38 states and 21 foreign countries. Their average age has been 18 1-2, none being admitted under 14. At the close of the year 110 persons received diplomas and industrial or trade certificates. The number of students to finish the courses in proportion to the enrollment is small, and perhaps will always be so for the reason that in the degree that the economic element enters into trade education, the student is tempted to leave school before finishing the course, but experience shows that many of those who are doing the most useful work left the institution before finishing the full course.

The number of students reached directly in the class room does not, however, embrace all the work done by the institution. It carries on constantly a wide range of what might be designated as "Extension Work,"

and this greatly adds to the annual expenditure for current expenses. This "Extension Work" in brief includes the annual Negro Conference together with its numerous branches known as local conferences. This extension work also includes the publication of a weekly farm paper; Farmers' Monthly Institute; the Short Course in Agriculture; the Farm Demonstration work, now extended to Mississippi and Texas, supported largely by the United States Government and the General Education Board; a town night school; a town afternoon cooking class; the County Institute; Ministers' Night School; a weekly mothers' meeting; county ministers' meetings; supervision of a county and state fair; the National Negro Business League, and a general effort to co-operate with the county officials to improve the country schools. One result of this latter work is seen in the fact that in one year the colored people in Macon County, Alabama, contributed in cash toward the building of new schoolhouses and the extension of the school term more than $3,000. In this work it ought to be added that school officials have given us every assistance and encouragement possible.

In all departments of the institution, 166 instructors and helpers have been employed.

In considering the cost of education at the Tuskegee Institute, one should not only keep in mind the double character of the education, academic and industrial, but also the further fact that the institution is in session practically twelve months in the year instead of eight or nine as is true of most institutions. It may interest the Trustees to note that the cost of the table board for students has been for each one $1.19 per week, 17 cents per day, or 5.68 cents per meal.

I ought to mention three elements that have added considerably to the item of current expense; one, an almost entire loss of a large sweet potato crop from rottening; second, the loss of a large proportion of our pigs from cholera, and third, an unexpected outbreak of sickness among our students.

Notwithstanding the hard and constant struggle we have had this year to get money it will be seen from the detailed report of our Treasurer that we have ended the year free from all indebtedness for current expenses. This has not been done without the exercise of the strictest economy. The ending of the year free of debt has been brought about very largely, how-

ever, through the generosity of "Three Friends in Brooklyn, N. Y.," Mrs. Russell Sage, and other friends who will not permit the use of their names.

It will be noted that the practice recently inaugurated of preparing a Budget in advance to cover the expenses of the year is proving helpful and satisfactory. So far as the matter of expense is concerned, leaving out industrial and trading accounts, we have come within a few thousand dollars of living within the provisions of the Budget.

We have received during the year from all sources for current expenses, including interest on endowment, from Slater Fund, General Education Board, state of Alabama, entrance fees of students, and gifts from individuals and organizations, $260,012.89. Of this amount $252,707.78 have been used in meeting the current expenses for this year, and the remainder for necessary increases of Plant and Equipment. Thanks to the provision made by the Board of Trustees at our last meeting the operations of the school for the year have been conducted on a cash basis.

We have received for special purposes, mainly in the way of improving the permanent plant $28,335.36. For addition to the Endowment Fund including sale of public land, $116,783.66. This makes the present endowment $1,513,440.03. For all purposes the income has been $405,131.91. The above figures include the receipt of securities from the executors of the Henry Mulliken Estate, whose market value is $80,642.72. We shall later receive additional securities from this estate to the amount of about $20,000 or $25,000.

The following is a list of the principal bequests aside from the Mulliken bequest which have been received since my last report and used according to the wishes of the testators:

Estate, Emeline W. Dawes, Buffalo, N. Y.	$4,762 50
Estate, Sarah H. Ropes, Salem, Mass.	500 00
Estate, Louisa G. Perkins, Boston, Mass.	3,285 84
Legacy, Manly A. Ruland, New York, N. Y.	1,900 00
Legacy, John C. Haynes, Boston, Mass.	3,000 00
Estate, Mary P. Ropes, Salem, Mass.	1,250 00
Legacy, Lucretia J. Tilton, Chicago, Ill.	20,000 00
Legacy, Anderson Martin, Pleasantville, Ill.	3,084 50

It should be noted that the students themselves have paid in cash towards their expenses $41,834 in the form of entrance fees and board bills. This, of course, is aside from what they have paid in labor.

The only proper way to measure the wisdom of such expenditure of money as I have outlined is by an actual, close and constant examination of the work of our graduates and ex-students. Judged by this test, every dollar that we are expending is more than justified, though this statement should not be taken to imply that we should not seek to economize and reduce the per capita cost of education. Said a noted writer once, "The holding of my pen helps me to think." There is, I think, something in the holding of a tool that not only makes our students think, but makes them act. I wish constantly that our Trustees and donors might have the opportunity of going into the places where our men and women are at work, now practically in every corner of the South, and see for themselves the results which they are achieving. In a recent trip through South Carolina and portions of Georgia, I was constantly surprised to note the large number of men and women who had remained at Tuskegee but for a few months who are doing good work. Almost without exception I found that our graduates were the leaders in agricultural work, school work, trades, housekeeping, business, moral and religious effort, and in some cases in the professions. Everywhere there is a demand for more of them.

I hope that the Trustees will be patient with the active officers on the grounds while we are developing the farm. We realize fully that the cost of the farm training and farm operations as at present carried on is exceedingly large and we believe that with a few more years the farm can be placed more nearly upon a paying basis. At the same time, we have the satisfaction of knowing that even at the present cost of operations, every man who graduates from this department is in immediate demand, and almost without exception they succeed in a more marked degree than from any other department. Five times as many as we are now training are in urgent demand. One university in the South has in its employ seven students who have received training in our Agricultural Department.

During the three summer months there are employed in the various divisions of the farm about 150 students. We have arranged during the present summer to carry on a "Farm School," giving regular and systematic

instruction at night to those students in all branches of farm work in connection with practical work on the farm. This work is now under way and the students appear enthusiastic over what they are having.

A few years ago we began holding for two weeks in the winter what is known as a Short Course in Agriculture. This has grown to be quite an important element in our work. The attendance last winter reached 400, and was composed of men and women, boys and girls, who came directly from the farm. The beneficial results of the Short Course can be seen in the improved condition of the farms from which these students came.

The Porto Rican government has maintained 23 students at the school during the year. Seven of them received diplomas and certificates at Commencement.

I call the attention of the Trustees to the importance of providing for the further extension of the railroad into the school grounds. We sustain a considerable loss each year owing to having to haul a large part of our freight, especially coal, a considerable distance. We are now paying annually for the hauling of freight approximately about $5,000, a large proportion of which could be saved by further extending the railroad. It is estimated that the cost of extending the railroad to the point needed into the school grounds would be about $12,000.

An early and speedy completion of the new dining hall I would especially emphasize. The amount still needed to complete this building is $53,000. Work is now being done daily on the new dining hall; on the White Memorial Hall, and in enlarging and overhauling Dorothy Hall.

Another important need is a building which will put under one roof what is now known as the salesroom, commissary and canning factory and provide at the same time a general warehouse to which freight can be delivered directly from the railroad and distributed to the various departments on the grounds.

Realizing the importance of increasing our water supply, the President of the Board of Trustees and the Principal, as you have been informed, were authorized by the Executive Committee to enter into arrangements with the Hudson Engineering Company to secure a sufficient supply of water through the medium of artesian wells. In this connection I ought to state that the firm of William Barclay Parsons has taken charge of the matter of securing a

sufficient water supply and of placing a proper drainage system on the grounds. Mr. Parsons is very generously doing all of this work without any charge to the institution except for actual expenses incurred. When one considers the high professional standing which Mr. Parsons sustains, it will be seen at once that this is a considerable gift to the school. The first well is now being driven, but it is too early to predict results.

We have recently had a visit from the Liberian Envoys, who came to the institution for the purpose of getting hold of ideas and methods that might be used in the development of the Republic of Liberia and to arrange for, if possible, a few of the most promising Liberians to be sent to us to be trained so that they may return to Liberia to be of service to their own country.

The old prejudice that used to exist among parents and students against agricultural and industrial training has disappeared and at the present time students are just as much interested in securing hand training as they are in the study of books. Something of a similar change has taken place among the people of the Negro race in every part of the country.

As to our needs. The most pressing ones are as follows:

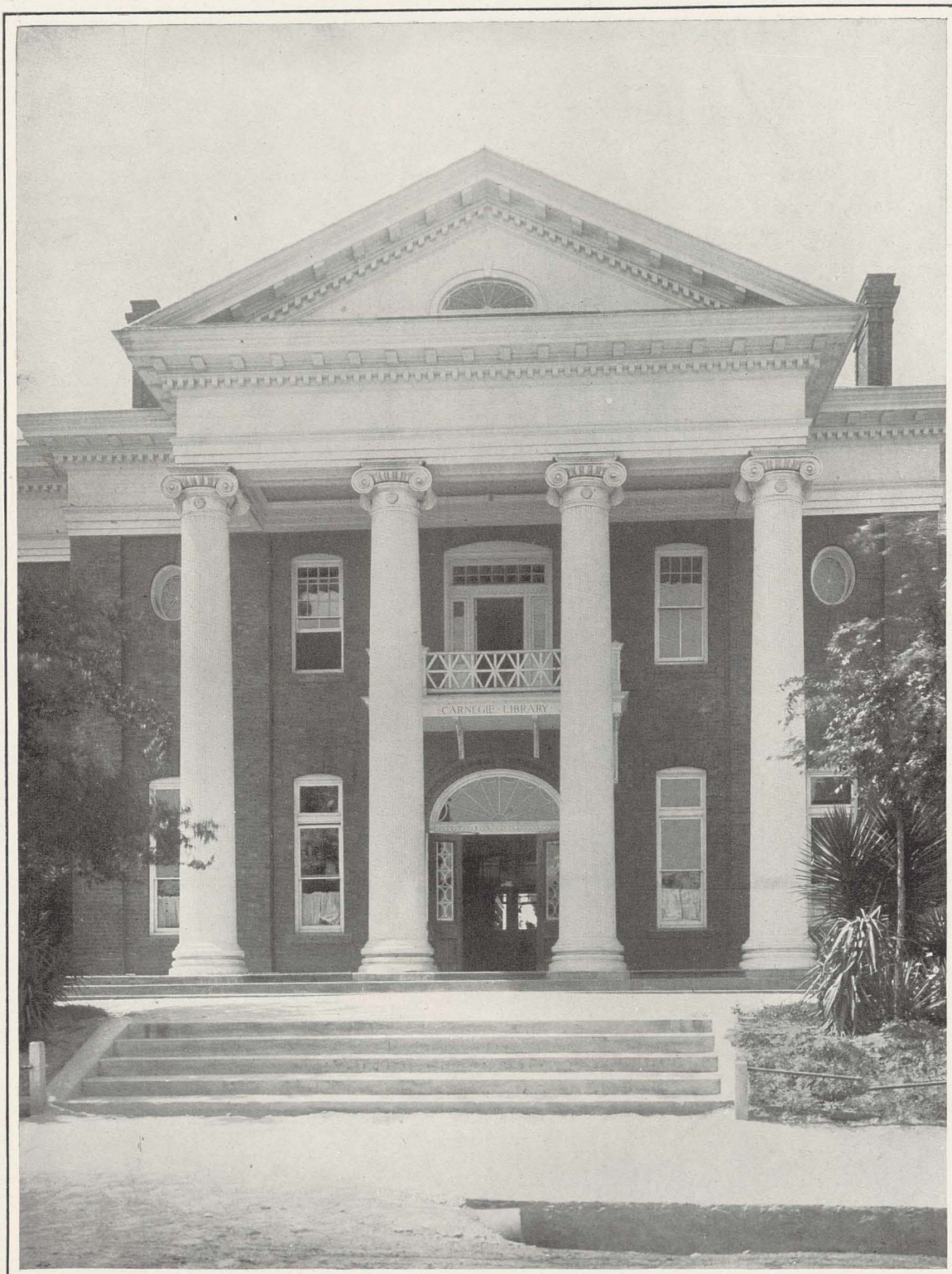
1. $50 a year for Annual Scholarships for the tuition of one student a year.
2. $1,200 for Permanent Scholarships.
3. Money for current expenses in any amounts, however small.
4. An addition to the Endowment Fund of at least $3,000,000.
5. $25,000 for a building for religious purposes.
6. $30,000 to complete the Boys' Trades Building.
7. $30,000 for a Boys' Dormitory Building.
8. Five cottages for teachers at $1,200 each.

Let me in conclusion thank the Trustees for all the kindly help and counsel they have given me during the past year.

Respectfully submitted:

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, *Principal.*

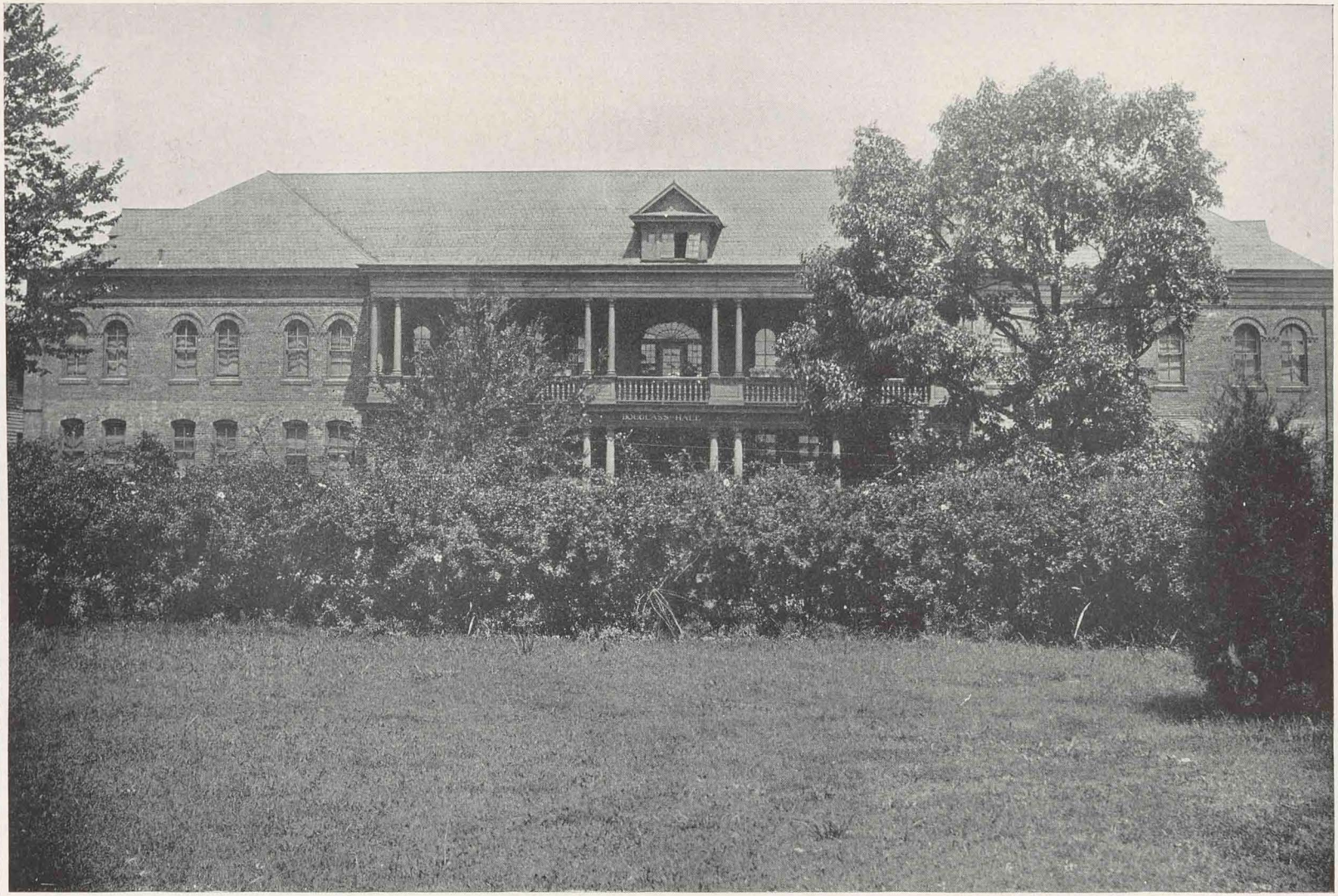
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.



Carnegie Library. Erected by student labor

Carnegie Library. Erected by student labor

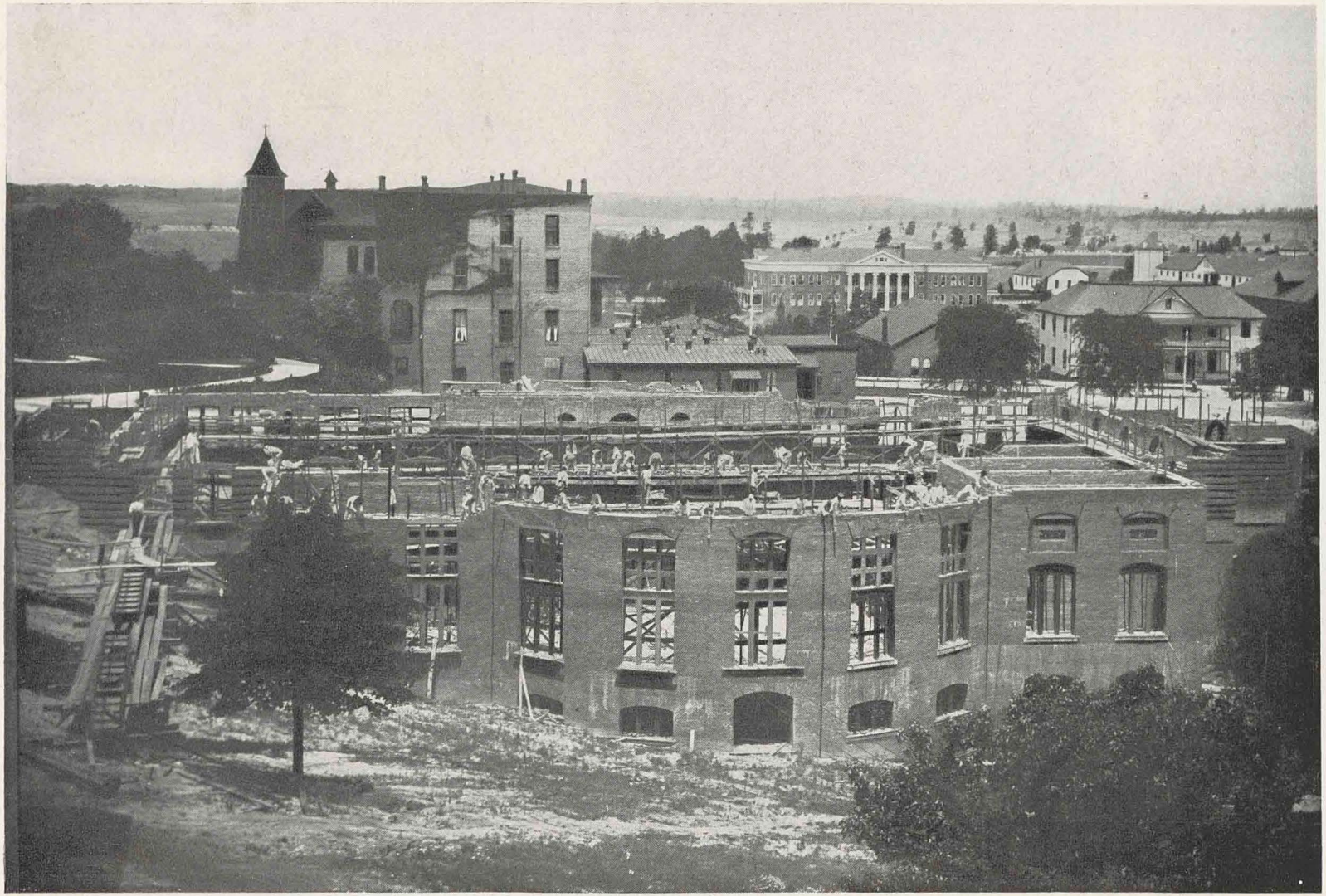
Tantum Hall, Girl's Dormitory. Erected almost entirely by student labor



Douglass Hall, dormitory for girls given by the late Gen. Wm. J. Palmer, of Colorado Springs. Erected by student labor

Scene at Tuskegee Institute Saw Mill. Logs being sawed for erection of White Memorial Hall, gift of friends in Brooklyn

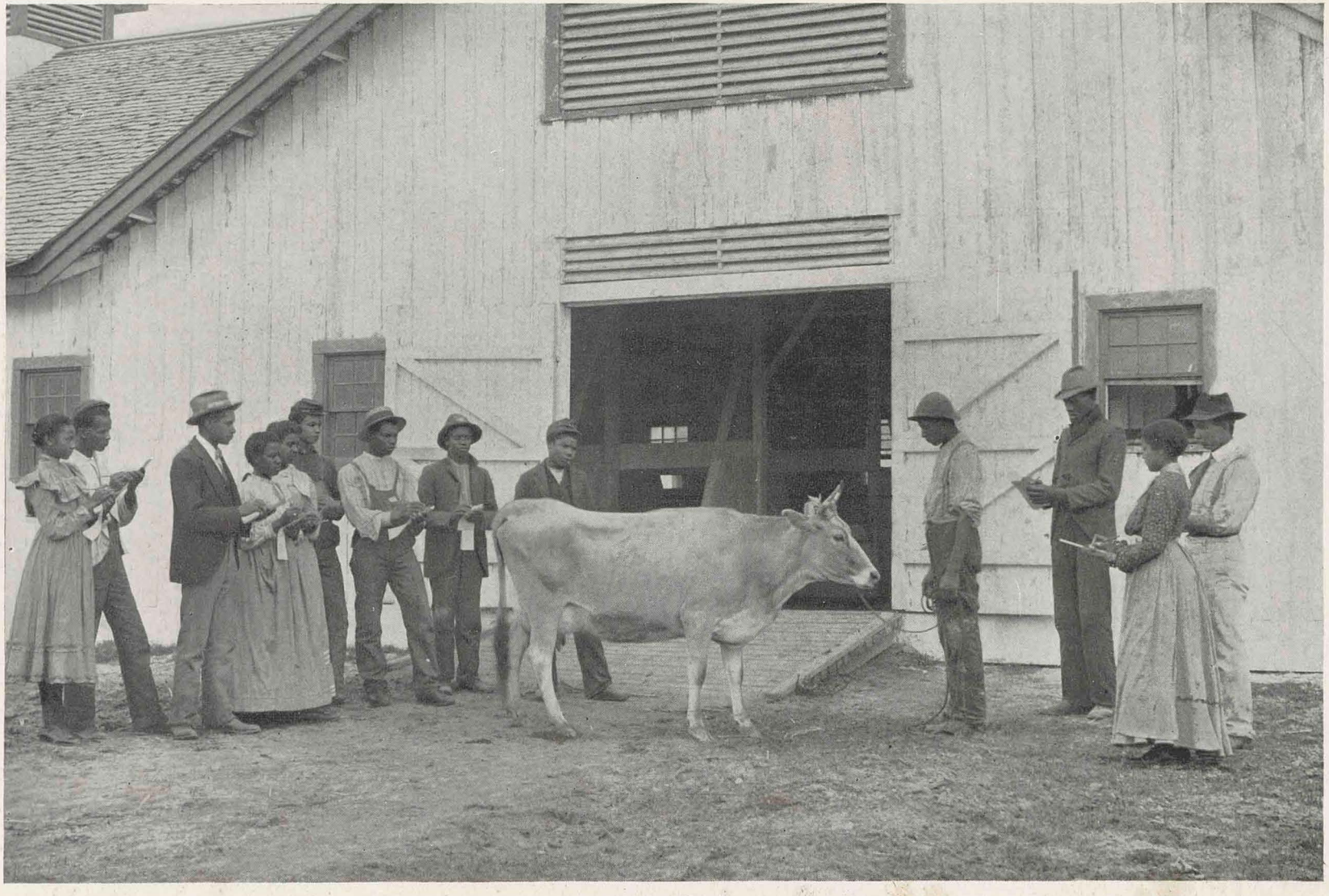
A scene at the Brickyard, where practically all the bricks for the erection of buildings are manufactured



Boys at work, engaged in the erection of the new Dining Hall, Tuskegee Institute

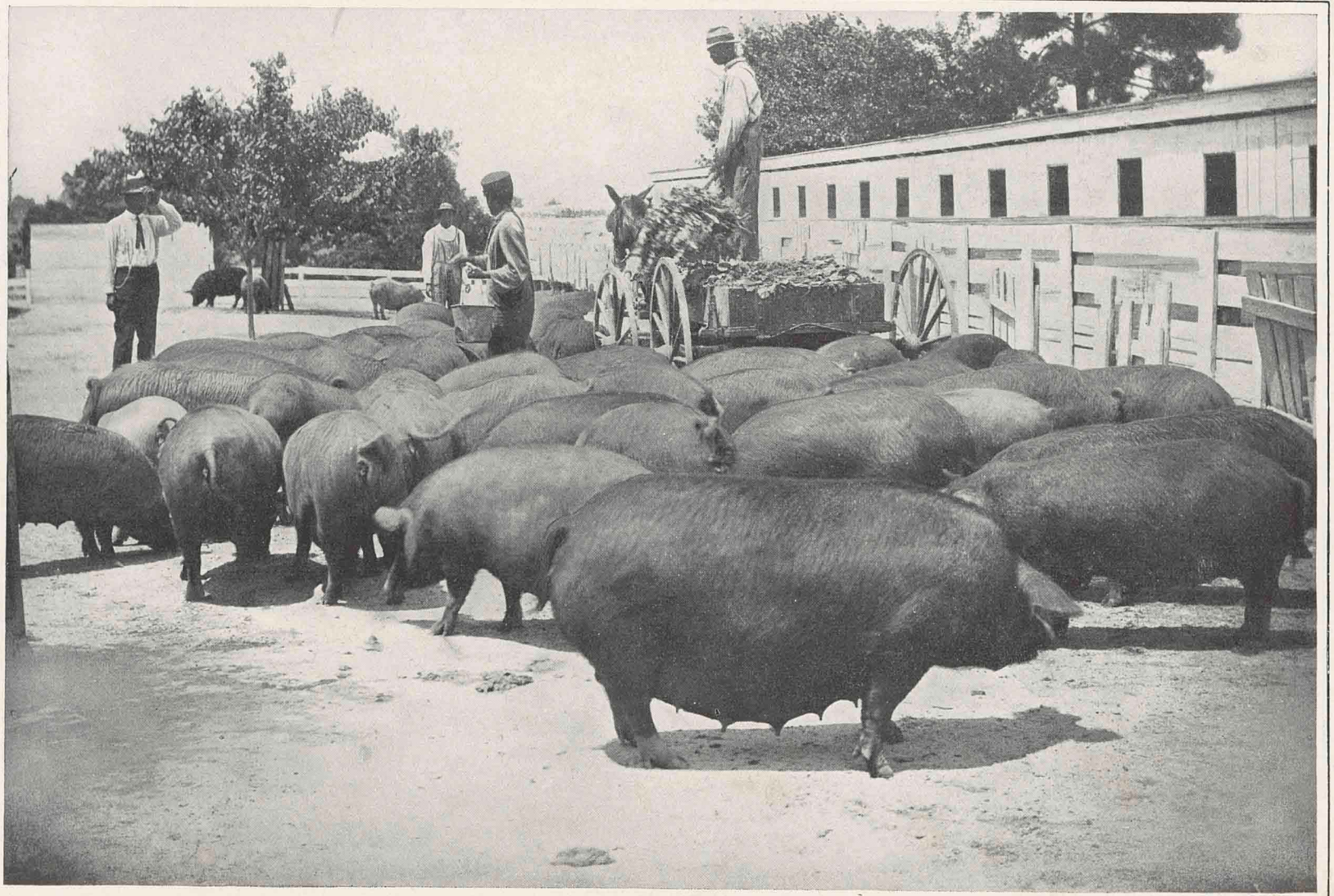
Portion of Dairy Herd

Students at work in the Creamery

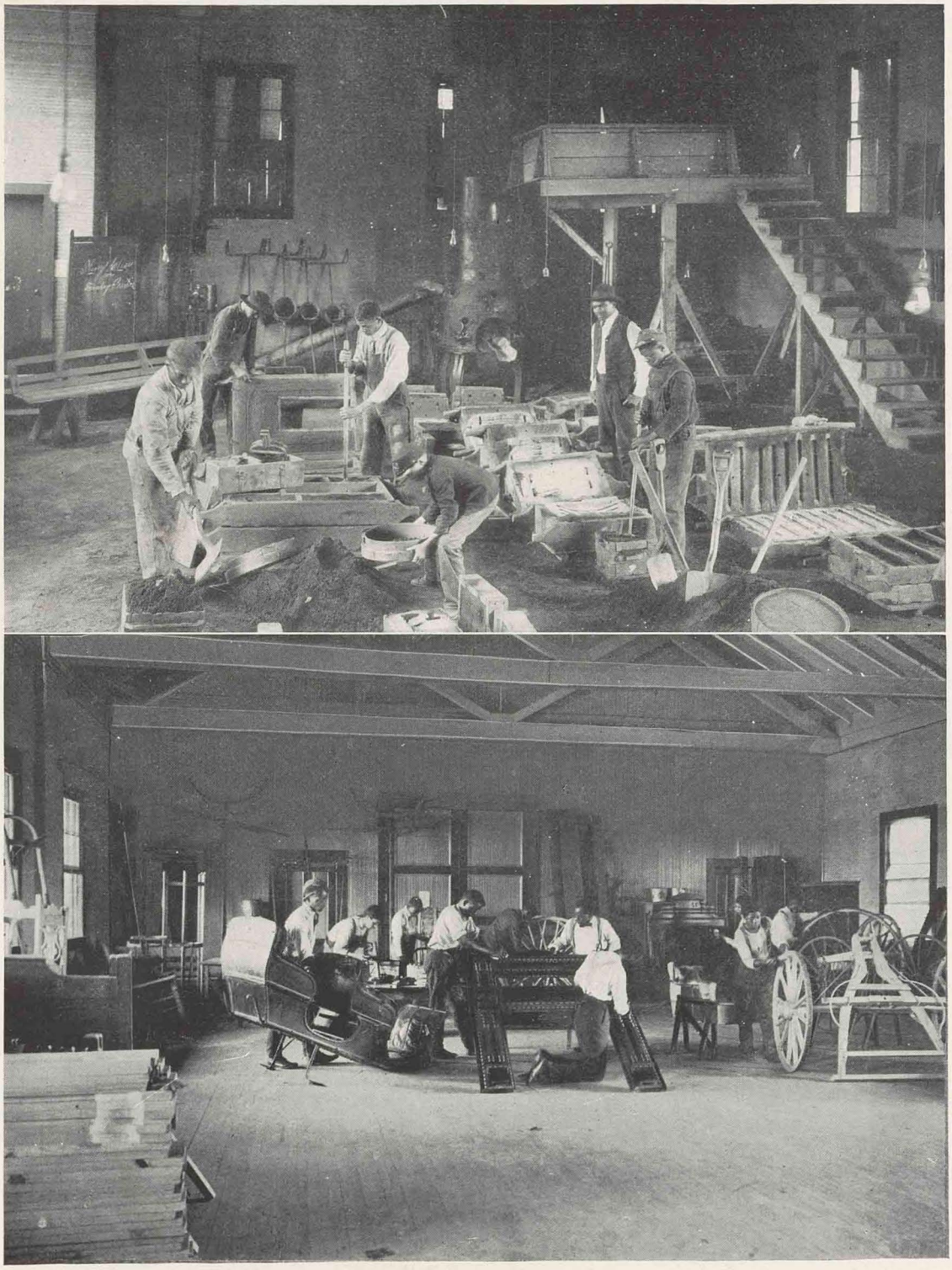


Judging Stock

Poultry Yard

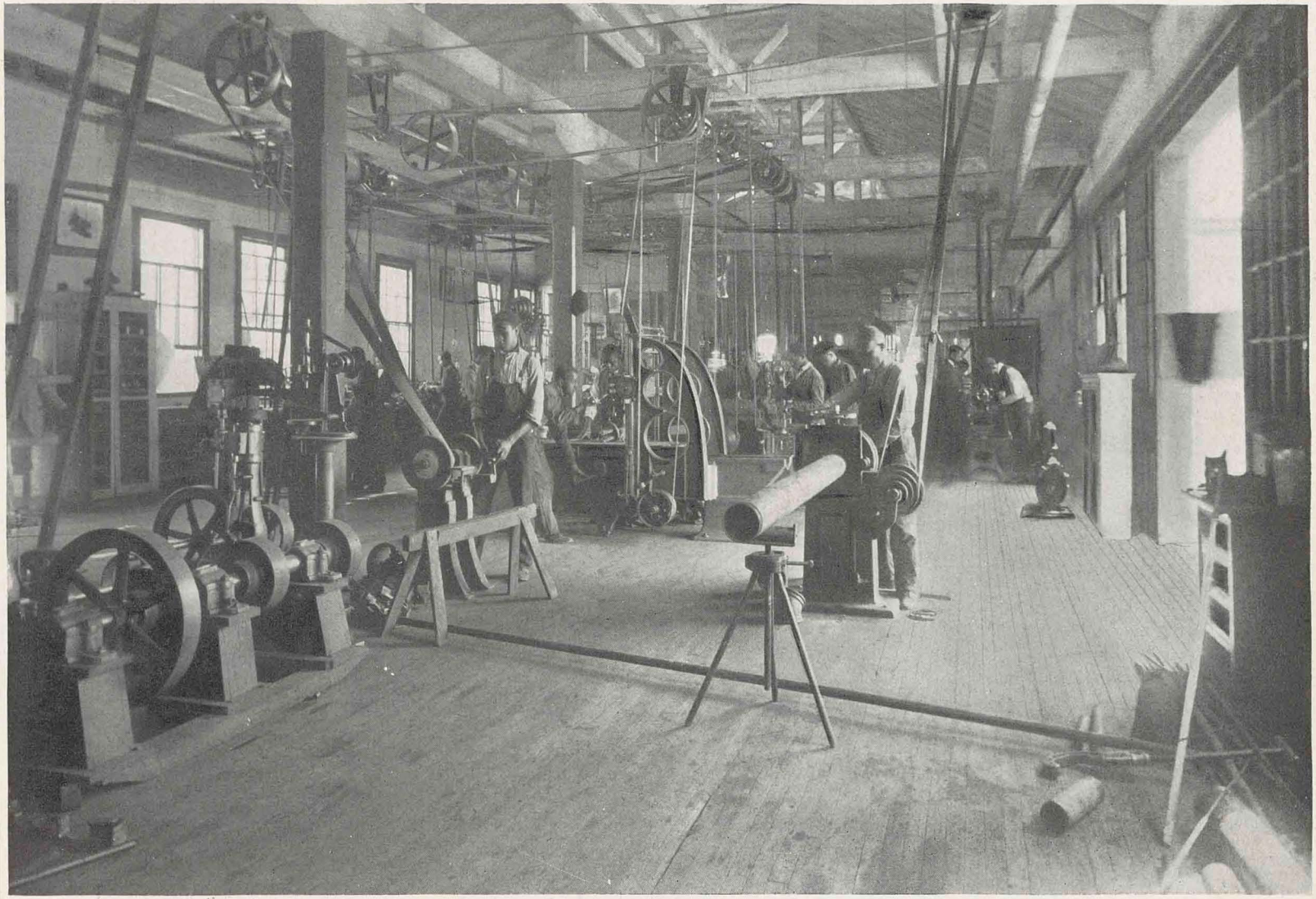


Swine raising, Tuskegee Institute



A Lesson in Foundry Work

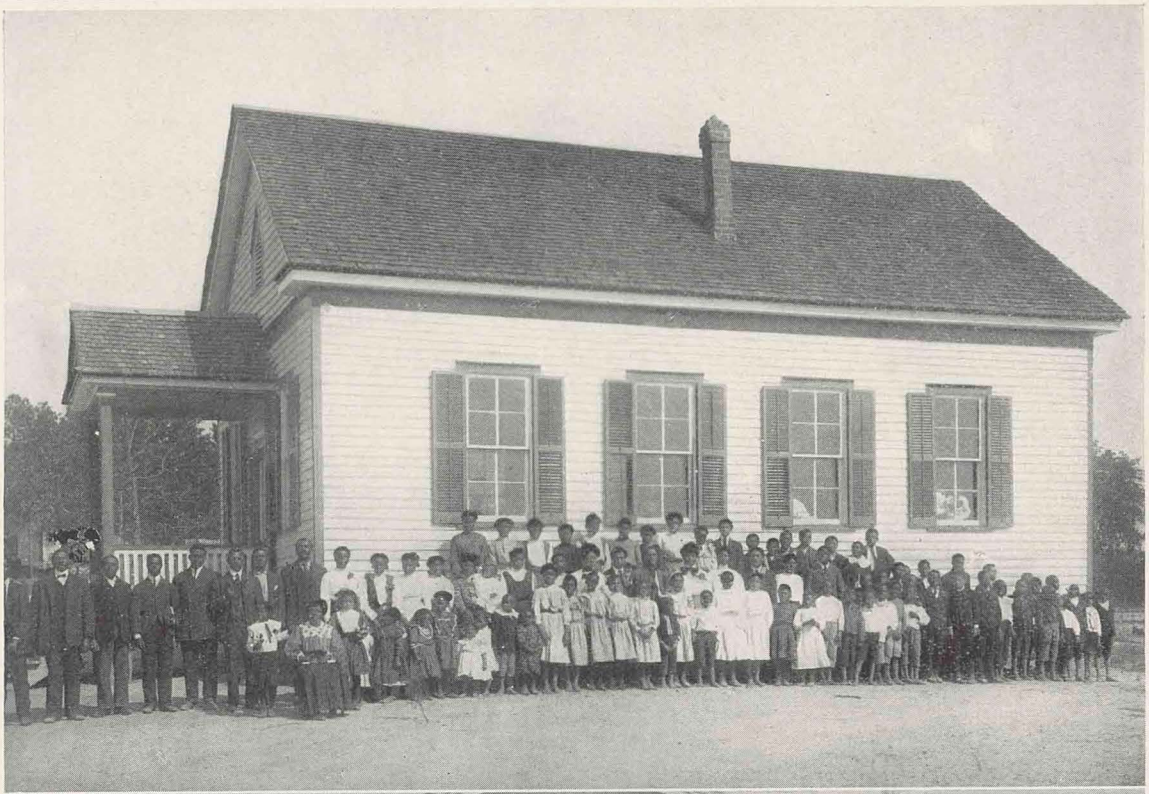
Corner of Paint Shop



Inside of Machine Shop

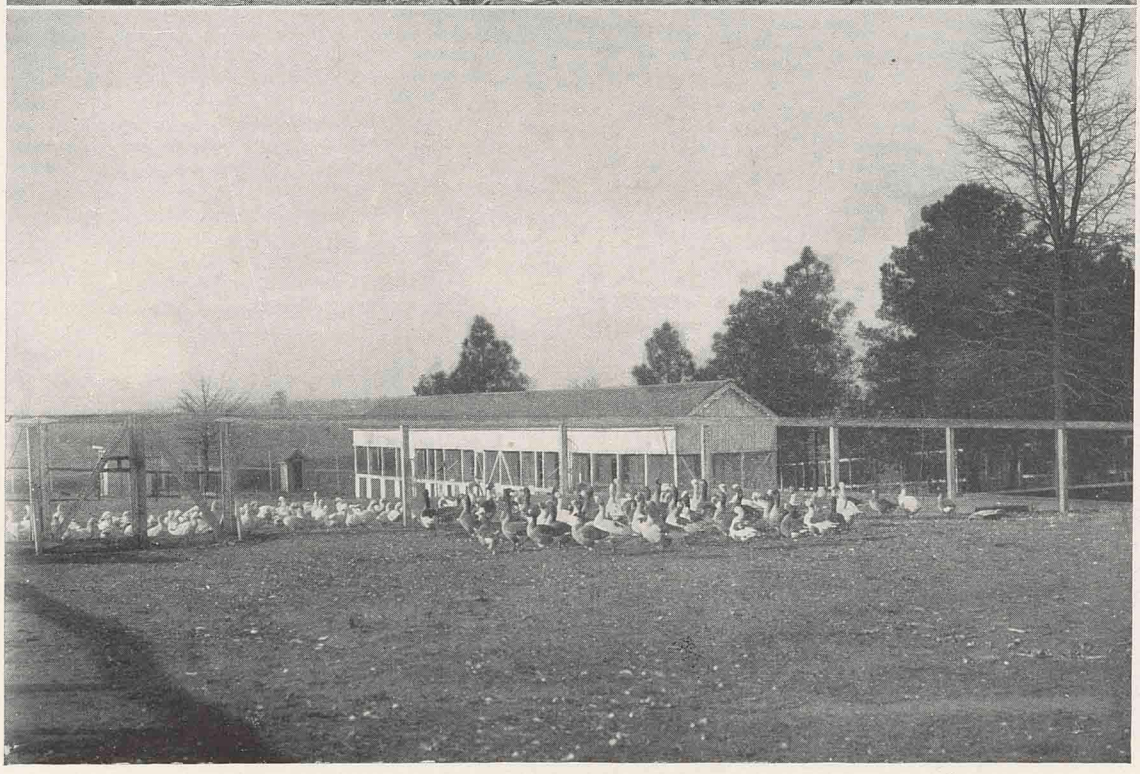
Class in Cooking

A Lesson in Table Serving



Type of rural school built in Alabama by one of the Tuskegee graduates, largely through the generosity of the late Henry H. Rogers

A group of farmers taking the short course in farming at Tuskegee Institute



A class in Truck Gardening

Training in Poultry Raising

Scene in Blacksmith Shop

Inside of the Canning Room, where girls are taught how to put up vegetables, fruit and berries

Dressmaking Class

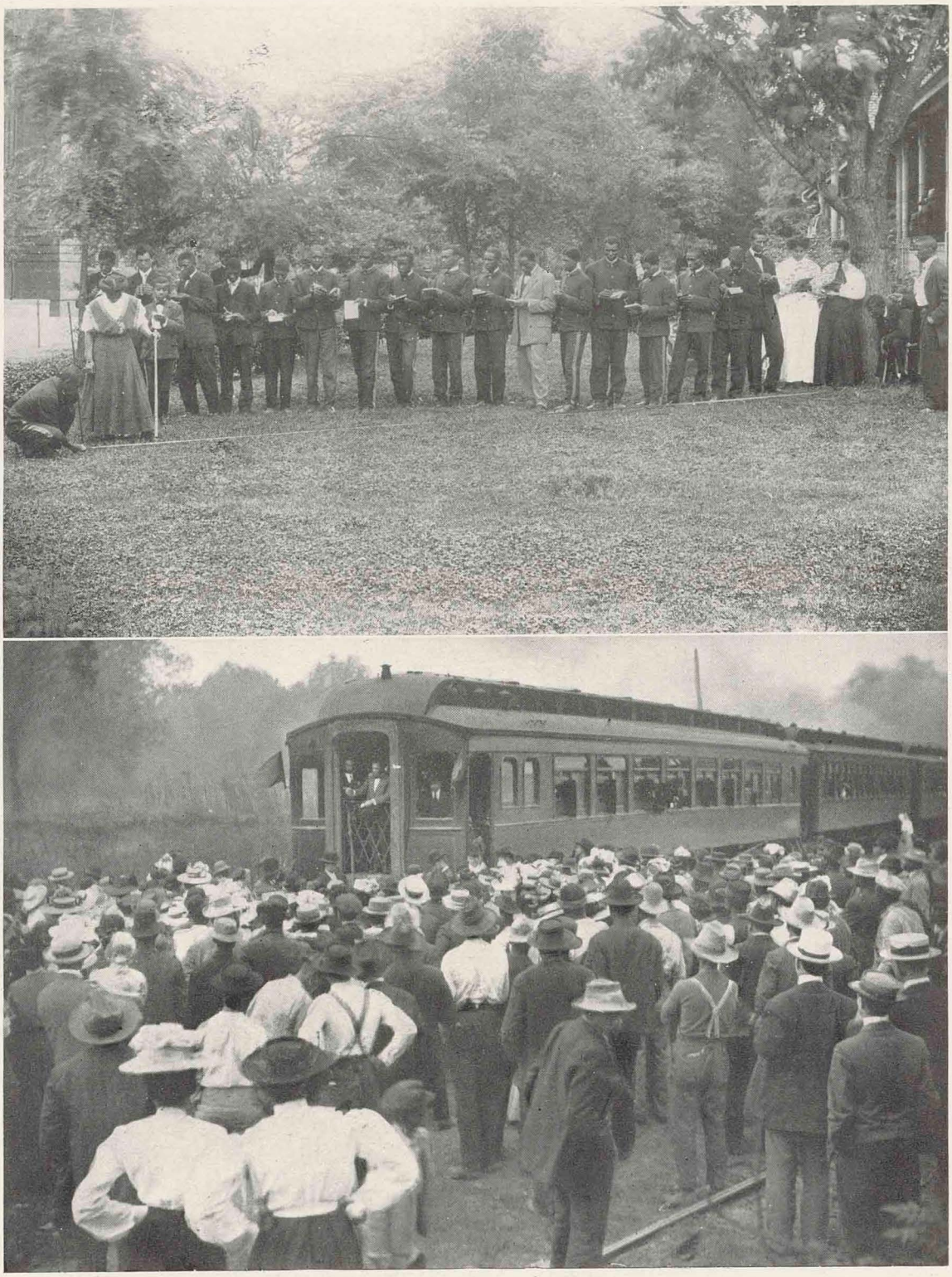
Class in Cooking

Sewing Class

Senior Class having a lesson in cooking

Group of the younger boys who are organized into a club for practical religious work

Scene on the school grounds on Commencement Day



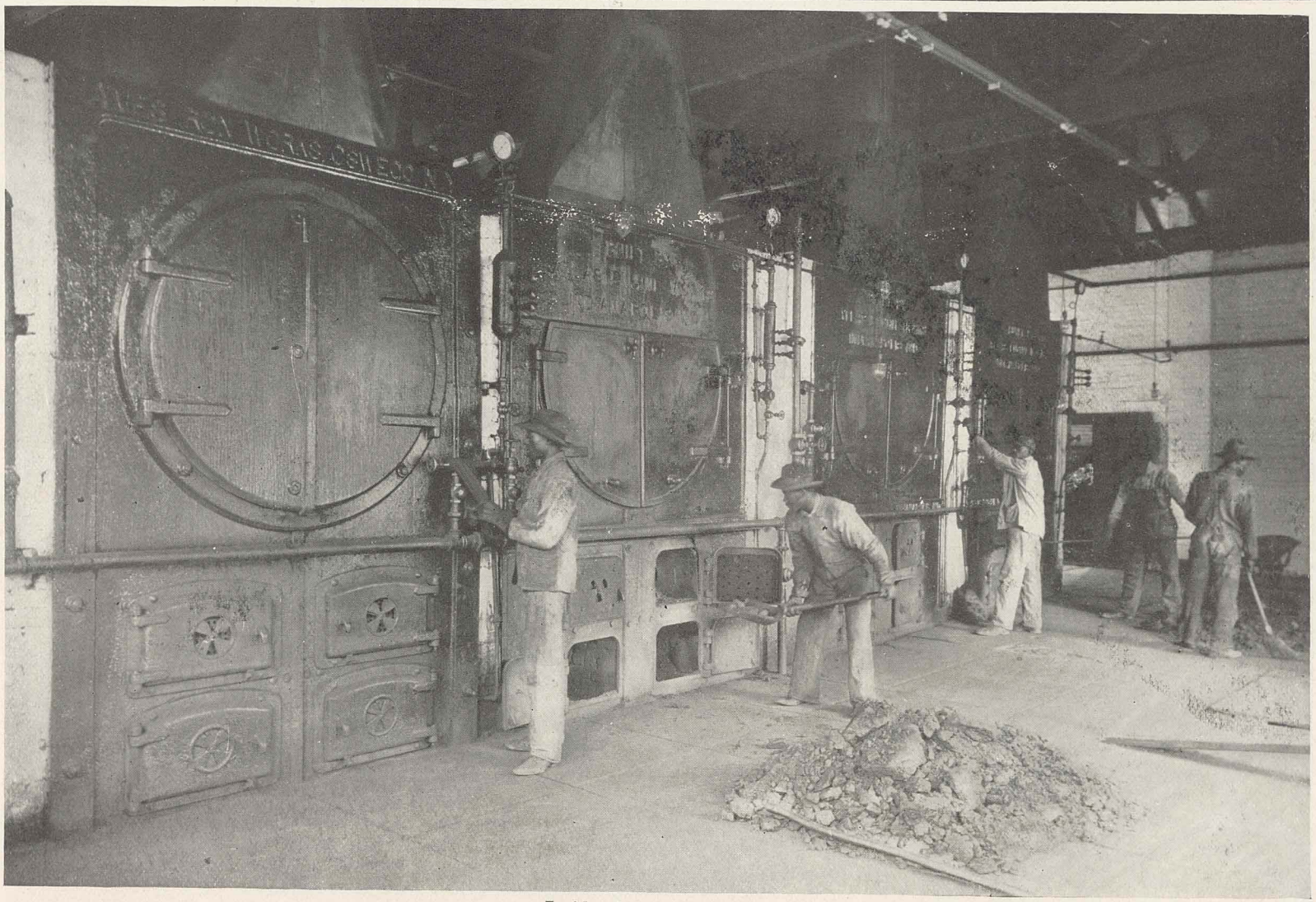
A Lesson in Geometry

The Principal of Tuskegee Institute on an educational tour in the State of Mississippi, speaking to the masses from the train

Training in the growing of peaches

Training in Truck Gardening at the Tuskegee Institute

The ministers of Macon Co., Alabama, holding their regular quarterly meeting at the Tuskegee Institute. These ministers meet at the Institution four times a year for the purpose of discussing the conditions of the people in the country and suggesting remedies for evils



Inside of the Boiler House

View of the Shoe Shop

Carrying better methods of agriculture to the farmers through the means of the Jesup Agricultural Wagon